

November 8, 2012

Please note that news sites update their hyperlinks, so it is advised that articles of interest be read soon as they might not be accessible later.

Can children conceived after father's death inherit under state's intestacy law? Supreme Court to consider issue of first impression in oral arguments
Court also to hear challenge to DHS 60-month lifetime limit on family cash assistance

[Press release](#)

Detroit Free Press: Markman, Zahra, McCormack win seats on Michigan Supreme Court

"The Michigan Supreme Court will maintain a Republican majority after two justices nominated by the GOP retained their seats in Tuesday's election. Justice Stephen Markman, who was appointed to the court in 1999, won a new eight-year term.... Justice Brian Zahra, who was appointed in January 2010, won the race to serve out a partial term on the court that expires Jan. 1, 2015.... University of Michigan law Professor Bridget Mary McCormack, a Democratic Party nominee, also won an eight-year term ... She will replace retiring Justice Marilyn Kelly, a Democratic nominee."

[Full story](#)

Also see:

The Detroit News: GOP takes 2 of 3 Supreme Court seats

[Full story](#)

The Detroit News: Editorial: Labor's bad night in Michigan

[Full story](#)

The Michigan Daily/Ann Arbor: McCormack, Markman to assume seats on state Supreme Court

[Full story](#)

Michigan Radio/Ann Arbor: Incumbents, McCormack elected to Michigan Supreme Court

[Full story](#)

The Michigan View: Jeffrey Hadden: Incumbency trumps Irish

[Full story](#)

State Bar of Michigan Blog: A Good Day For Incumbent Supreme Court Justices Nationally?

[Full story](#)

WJR 760 AM/Detroit: Frank Beckmann interview with Bridget Mary McCormack, newly elected Michigan Supreme Court Justice (8:45 minute podcast)

[Full story](#)

Detroit Free Press: Ousted Inkster judge can't convince voters she deserves 2nd chance

"Ousted former Inkster judge Sylvia James won't return to the bench in January after being overwhelmingly defeated by incumbent 22nd District Court Judge Sabrina Johnson in Tuesday's election. James, who had served on the bench in Inkster since 1989, was hoping to regain the seat she lost in July when the Michigan Supreme Court found her guilty of judicial misconduct."

[Full story](#)

Also see:

The Detroit News: Daniels recall in Troy spurs mayoral merry-go-round (see Wayne County section)

[Full story](#)

State Bar of Michigan Blog: Removal From Bench An Electoral Handicap? Johnson Defeats James

[Full story](#)

WXYZ-TV(7)/Detroit: Ex-Inkster Judge Sylvia James loses last-ditch effort to regain her old job

[Full story](#)

Detroit Free Press: 10 things to take away from Tuesday's election

"... 5. MONEY TALKS? ... In another pricey contest, a pair of shadowy political action committees dumped \$2.2 million into a race to unseat two incumbent Oakland County Circuit Court judges and replace them with Deb Carley and Bill Rolliston. Didn't work."

[Full story](#)

The Argus-Press/Owosso: PROBATE COURT: Dignan outlasts Van Epps

"Attorney Thomas Dignan defeated opponent Matthew Van Epps for the Shiawassee County Probate/Family Court judgeship. Dignan earned the spot on the bench with more than 57 percent of the votes in the county."

[Full story](#)

The Daily News/Greenville: Montcalm County law enforcement millage fails

"Despite continued crime throughout Montcalm County, voters decided to turn down a proposal in support of local law enforcement millage.... Three laid-off deputies, including a court deputy, could have also been rehired, along with the positions of recently retired deputy and a sergeant."

[Full story](#)

Daily Press & Argus: Cavanaugh judged winner in Probate Court contest

"In a nail-biting upset, Assistant Prosecutor Miriam Cavanaugh defeated Friend of the Court attorney-referee Lori Marran by a mere 3.5 percent to become Livingston County's next probate judge."

[Full story](#)

Detroit Legal News: Asked and Answered: Bruce A. Courtade

"The State Bar of Michigan has requested that the Michigan Supreme Court consider adopting a rule-based definition of the practice of law approved by the State Bar Representative Assembly. The proposal is intended to codify Michigan's common law defining the practice of law and to serve as a guide to help protect the public from persons engaged in the unauthorized practice of law."

[Full story](#)

Detroit Legal News: Keeping focus on the big picture

"Oakland County 52-4 District Court Judge Dennis Drury will wrap up his career on the bench serving the City of Troy at the end of this year.... A retirement celebration for Drury will be hosted on Thursday, Nov. 8, beginning at 6 p.m. at the San Marino Club in Troy."

[Full story](#)

Detroit Legal News: Send Off

"A retirement party was held in honor of Oakland County 44th District Court Chief Judge Daniel Sawicki on Thursday, Oct. 11, at Red Run Country Club in Royal Oak."

[Full story](#)

Ingham County Legal News: Case management guidelines pros and cons

"Hon. Janelle Lawless, Chief Judge Ingham County Circuit Court, has concerns about the Case Management Guidelines established by the Michigan Supreme Court, which she said 'can conflict with what the law allows parties in a lawsuit to do.' "

[Full story](#)

Jackson County Legal News: Getting rid of that record

Marie Matyjaszek writes "... If you're looking to set aside a criminal conviction, also called an 'expungement,' the State Court Administrator's Office (SCAO) has a great packet which includes eligibility questions, instructions and forms to help you do this."

[Full story](#)

Lansing State Journal: Editorial: Block guns in libraries, lawmakers

"The Michigan Court of Appeals has overturned an Ingham County judge's ruling that said Capital Area District Library's governing board could forbid guns from being carried in its branches. The Legislature has had amply opportunity to amend state law regarding libraries and firearms."

[Full story](#)

**** The article is available by subscription only.**

Ludington Daily News: Mason County public defender Annette Smedley elected judge in Muskegon County

"Annette Smedley, who has worked for the last five years as a Mason County contracted public defender, defeated Raymond Kostrzewa for the vacant 14th Circuit Court judge seat in Muskegon County.... Judge-elect Smedley will be the first female circuit court judge in Muskegon County."

[Full story](#)

Ludington Daily News: Nellis edges Krieger [for Mason County Probate Judge]

"Both Nick Krieger and Jeff Nellis were exhausted by the time the final votes were counted in their contest for Mason County's probate judge seat shortly after 1 a.m. [yesterday].... For Nellis, it was time for a second wind so he could celebrate his 6,189 to 6,015 victory with friends and family."

[Full story](#)

Macomb County Legal News: New hearing ordered in Detroit fireman's death

"The Michigan appeals court has ordered a new hearing to determine the prison sentence for a man whose fire killed a Detroit firefighter Mario Willis was sentenced to at least 41 years in prison for second-degree murder."

[Full story](#)

The Mining Journal/Marquette: Hill takes court bench seat

"With a total of 16,330 votes, Cheryl Hill won her bid to become Marquette County's next probate judge.... On Jan. 1, Hill will take over the judgeship being vacated by current Marquette County Probate Court Judge Michael Anderegg, who held the seat for more than three decades and will retire at the end of this year."

[Full story](#)

Also see:

WLUC-TV(6)/Negaunee: Cheryl Hill will be the new Marquette County Probate Judge

[Full story](#)

Oakland County Legal News: Domestic Violence Exhibit debuts at Michigan Supreme Court Learning Center

"A new exhibit at the Michigan Supreme Court Learning Center in Lansing aims to educate young viewers about the dangers of domestic violence—and how to look for the warning signs of an abusive partner."

[Full story](#)

State Bar of Michigan Blog: Michigan Supreme Court Rejects Exhibit Retention Rule, Seeks Comment On Plea Withdrawal Rule Change

"By order released Wednesday, the Michigan Supreme Court closed the file on a proposal to require trial courts to become the depository for exhibits offered in evidence (whether those exhibits are admitted or not), instead of requiring parties to submit exhibits offered in evidence when a case is submitted to the Court of Appeals on a claim of appeal."

[Full story](#)

Three Rivers Commercial-News: Tomlinson looks to Probate bench

"Lacking sleep but not enthusiasm, Probate Judge-elect David Tomlinson spoke with the Commercial-News last evening about his reactions to his election and upcoming ascendancy to the judicial bench following his victory on Tuesday in St. Joseph County's probate judgeship race."

[Full story](#)

Three Rivers Commercial-News: Judge-elect Pattison: ready to serve

"Rob Pattison of Sturgis and of the law firm Bird, Svendsen, Brothers, Scheske and Pattison emerged victorious in Tuesday's balloting for the position of St. Joseph County District Court Judge. On Jan. 1 he will ascend to the bench, succeeding Judge William Welty who is retiring at the end of this judicial term."

[Full story](#)